

Regional Advisory Committee Annual Meeting

by Beryl Glitz

The PSRML Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) held its annual meeting at UCLA in late January. Members of the current RAC are:

Health Professional Members: Gerald Ackerman - Northeastern Area Health Education Center, Elko, NV; D. William Wood - University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI; Ralph Spada - Valley Medical Group, Lompoc, CA; Janice Swanson - Samuel Merritt College, Oakland, CA; Russ Toth - California AIDS Clearinghouse, LA, CA

Medical Library Group Representatives:
Hawaii-Pacific Chapter of the Medical Library Association: Mabel Trafford - Tripler Army Medical Center, HI

Medical Library Group of Southern California and Arizona: Liz Gnerre - House Ear Institute, Los Angeles, CA

Northern California and Nevada Medical Library Group: Billie White - Mercy Medical Center of Redding, CA

At Large Members: Nancy Firchow - O'Connor Hospital, San Jose, CA; Michael R. Kronenfeld - Maricopa Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ; Mary White - Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Bellflower, CA; Jane Thomsen - Carson-Tahoe Hospital, Carson City, NV

Resource Library Directors: Karen Butter - University of California San Francisco; Nelson Gilman - University of Southern California; Joan Zenan - University of Nevada.

The group discussed a number of issues related to NLM and NN/LM-PSR programs and services, providing comments and feedback. Agenda items included:

- Free access to MEDLINE via IGM and PubMed
- Sharing of expertise within the region
- Formation of a working group to look at the possibility of using electronic fund transfer for ILL billing
- Results of the Internet connectivity survey and NLM follow-up meeting
- Targeting health professionals in the region in Year 3 of the contract
- Update on the California Digital Library (CDL) initiative of the University of California
- Ideas for promoting the use of technology and increasing the knowledge and skills of librarians in the region.

Below are a few highlights from the meeting. If you are interested in more detailed information on any of these topics, please contact PSRML.

FREE ACCESS TO MEDLINE ON THE WEB: A number of points were made on the perceived impact of free MEDLINE availability on health professionals and health sciences librarians.

1. Health professionals who resisted end-user searching in the past have now begun to do their own searching

(continued on page 2)

ARIZONA

CALIFORNIA

HAWAII

NEVADA

PACIFIC
BASIN

Latitudes

In This Issue

Regional Advisory Committee Annual Meeting	1
PSRML On the Road	3
BioSites Evaluation Meeting	4
Internet Observations	5
Internet Risks and Liability	6
FAQ: California Digital Library	7
Hospital and Health Administration Index	8
Accessing Useful Information: Challenges in Health Policy	9
PSRML Listserv Invitation	9

May/June 1998

volume 7, no. 3

PSRML Outreach Subcontract Coming Soon	9
Setting the Standard - Once Again in Region 7!	10
Serhold Updating	10
Network Membership Directory	10
LSIO Order Information	11
PubMed 2.0 on the Web	11
1998 UMLS Knowledge Source Available	11
NLM Technical Bulletin Table of Contents	12
Upcoming Events	12

**Pacific Southwest
Regional Medical
Library (PSRML)**



*Headquarters for
Region 7, NN/LM*

*Louise M. Darling
Biomedical Library
UCLA
12-077 Center for the
Health Sciences
Box 951798
Los Angeles, CA
90095-1798
(800) 338-RMLS
(310) 825-1200
FAX: (310) 825-5389*

www.nlm.nih.gov/psr

**Internet: user name
(listed below)
followed by
@library.ucla.edu**

Staff Directory

*Alison Bunting Director
(abunting)*

*Beryl Glitz
Associate Director (bglitz)*

*Claire Hamasu
Outreach Coordinator
(chamasu)*

*Heidi Sandstrom
Network Coordinator
(heidits)*

*Judy Consales
Information Technology
Coordinator (Consales)*

*Michael Miller
Administrative Assistant
(mmiller)*

*Nadene McDonald
Administrative Assistant
Latitudes Production Mgr.
(mcdonald)*

Latitudes: Newsletter of
the Pacific Southwest
Region, National Network
of Libraries of Medicine
(NN/LM) is published bi-
monthly by PSRML.
Supported by NLM contract
NO1-LM-6-3527. Please
send items and contributed
articles for *Latitudes* to
Beryl Glitz, editor.

(RAC Meeting, continued from page 1)

- because all the barriers of dial-up access are gone.
2. Health professionals are more willing to search Pub Med because they always get hits.
3. Access is now available to health professional students whose schools may not have provided all of the NLM databases before.
4. Free access reinforces a growing dichotomy between the technological "Haves" and "Have Nots".
5. MEDLINE access via the Internet has frustrated some librarians who have purchased a good system with added value features (such as links to local holdings) but the health professional uses something else.
6. More lay people are searching for health information on the Internet. Patients are asking their physicians about information found on the Internet, forcing physicians to check the current literature.

In terms of how NLM can improve IGM and PubMed for librarians:

1. Librarians still prefer ELHILL; the usefulness of IGM and PubMed is limited for the librarian searcher.
2. To generate a list of characteristics for an expert search system, it would be useful to get input in a systematic way. An advisory committee or focus groups held across the country might be productive in developing an interface design.
3. NLM might want to investigate going into a joint venture with a commercial company to create a more sophisticated interface.
4. Useful features to add to IGM and PubMed:
 - An online tutorial
 - A system that educates and makes for a better searcher, as well as doing the search
 - A document delivery feature since full-text is not completely available (Loansome Doc has since been added)
5. A link from IGM & PubMed to other document delivery services such as Uncover would be useful. This would relieve Network members from being the only source of document delivery - an important consideration given that libraries continue canceling

journals, yet more and more users, both health professionals and the public, are searching.

6. Nurses would like to see more nursing-friendly terms in MeSH or mapped to MeSH. They would also like to see more nursing journals indexed in MEDLINE.

RESOURCE SHARING ISSUES: Heidi Sandstrom presented information on four areas of resource sharing activity in Region 7: the Consultants Survey, the Electronic Fund Transfer Task Force, the NLM Internet Survey, and plans to target specific health professionals for outreach in Year 3 of the contract.

Heidi asked RAC members to suggest ways to increase the response rate to the Consultant's Survey, which was sent to the Region in November, 1997, and to promote this service within the Region. The members made several suggestions about revising the Survey and more clearly defining its objectives, scope of involvement, and desired expertise for potential respondents. NOTE: Suggestions to promote this service to a broader audience have been implemented and have resulted in a greater response rate.

Electronic fund transfer system developments were reviewed, highlighting the two models in existence within the NN/LM. RAC members concurred with the formation of a task force or study group to 1) explore the functional requirements of such a system and to 2) make proposals to the Region. Concerns were expressed about using deposit accounts and a suggestion was made to look into credit cards as a payment medium. A beta test was suggested.

The NLM Internet Connectivity Survey (Spring, 1997) results were reviewed and an update was provided on efforts to increase Internet connectivity. Members expressed concern that routers, firewalls, and quality of connectivity issues pose a greater problem than the power of the workstation.

Regional activities which have involved public health professionals were discussed and the proposal to also target nursing professionals in Contract Year 3 was met with enthusiasm. Suggestions

(continued on page 4)

PSRML ON THE ROAD...



If you wanted to speak to a PSRML staff member in the last couple of months, it may have been easier to track us down at one of the many conferences we attended than calling us in the office. We attended six conferences as an exhibitor, workshop presenter, or participant! We traveled to places as close as Long Beach, CA and as far away as New York. (See *Accessing Useful Information: Challenges In Health Policy And Public Health* on page 9)

Exhibits: One of the busiest exhibits we have ever staffed was the PriMed Primary Medicine Today Conference, held at the Long Beach Convention Center at the beginning of March. This was a free meeting for over 6,500 primary care physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners who found it an easy way to obtain CME credits. Can you imagine trying to talk to 200 people a day, demonstrating free access to MEDLINE, and showing off the Internet? That was our experience at PriMed. Many thanks to Irene Lovas, consultant, and Dyan Martin, from Kaiser Anaheim, for assisting us in the booth during the three-day stampede.

A much smaller meeting, annually attended by PSRML, is the National HIV Update, held this year in San Francisco in March. This meeting targets anyone interested in keeping abreast of the social, legislative, and therapeutic changes in this area. Traditionally drawing participants primarily from the Southwest, this tenth year of the Update has finally started to attract attendees from all over the country. One of the new programs for the meeting was a day of presentations focused on youth and HIV. Although many AIDS organizations and agencies still are not connected to the Internet, their staff members have personal accounts at home and there was

considerable interest in the amount of AIDS information on the Internet.

The American College of Physicians (ACP) is one of the professional organizations that has traditionally encouraged its membership to use current literature in patient care and to access this literature using the latest technology. The college is a strong proponent of evidence based medicine. It was the first organization to sign a flat-rate fee agreement with the National Library of Medicine, always presents several workshops on searching MEDLINE at their annual session, and provides a link to Internet Grateful Med and PubMed from its home page. The Annual Session was held in April in San Diego this year. Judy Consales and Claire Hamasu staffed a workstation in the learning resource center where members could sit and learn how to search with IGM or PubMed. Members were thrilled with the capabilities and ease of the search engines, and challenged us with questions such as the "treatment of mycobacterium in non-HIV positive patients", "sleep disorders causing traffic accidents", and "when to operate on patients with aortic aneurysms between 5cm and 6cm in diameter".

Training Visits: Judy Consales and Claire Hamasu visited Napa in March enjoying the wild flowers along the way and wishing they had enough time to visit the wineries. However, there were public health nurses anxious to learn about the Internet and eager to start navigating the Web. As part of the PSRML California TelePH (Tele-education for Public Health) project, public health nurses from rural county health departments learned how to use a Web browser and discovered some of the neat health related sites on the Internet. Follow-up of this

session will target the Calaveras county nurses via video-conferencing.

On a stormy day in San Diego, Navy medical corpsmen from around the country gathered at the Town and Country Convention Center for an Internet Grateful Med Training Session, as part of the Navy Occupational Health and Preventive Medicine Workshop. Marilyn Schwartz, from the San Diego Naval Medical Center and Claire Hamasu conducted a lively session while systems staff worked hard to keep the rain-affected Internet connections alive. Fortunately, the participants were very understanding.

Resource sharing visits: Heidi Sandstrom journeyed south in March, through the wet and the wildflowers, to visit two of our Region 7 Resource Libraries at the University of California campuses at Irvine and San Diego. This was an opportunity to meet the staff, tour the libraries, and review some of the features and answer questions about DOCLINE routing, Loansome Doc service, and SERHOLD data entry.

Judy Bube at UC Irvine (UCI) demonstrated some of the document ordering features of UCI's online catalog, in addition to giving a tour of the Science and Main libraries in the lovely and quiet (Spring Break) setting of the Irvine campus. Barbara Slater and staff of the Biomed Library at UC San Diego (UCSD) met with Heidi the following day. It was particularly interesting to hear how UCSD is using Loansome Doc and PLUS Information Service to process document delivery requests. After the UCSD meeting, Heidi visited the Children's Hospital and Sharp health sciences libraries. This trip to our California counties to the south was both enjoyable and informative, and lovely despite the rain! ☀

BioSites Evaluation Meeting

by Judy Consales

In December 1995 the PSRML Working Group on Cooperative Internet Collection Development was formed. This group was charged with developing a plan for a cooperative approach between Resource Libraries in the NN/LM Pacific Southwest Region to identify quality Internet resources and make the information available to health sciences libraries. The resulting Internet product was named BioSites (<http://www.library.ucsf/biosites/>) and now contains over 300 links to quality Internet resources in 74 subject disciplines from AIDS to Women's Health. BioSites is a shared effort housed at the UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management. Representatives from Resource Libraries review Internet sites and submit items for inclusion in BioSites. Users then access this virtual catalog

of Internet biomedical resources by browsing broad topics, viewing the latest twenty five resources added, or searching keywords.

In March 1998 Resource Library representatives gathered at UCLA for a BioSites evaluation meeting. Brian Warling, Manager of Digital Library Operations, University of California, San Francisco Library and BioSites Webmanager, presented the results of an evaluation study that users responded to by completing a form on BioSites. During the evaluation period 70 surveys were completed with the largest category of respondents being librarians/information specialists. Over 80% of respondents indicated that BioSites was fairly easy or easy to use. In January 1998 the highest hit record to date was recorded- 11,897 hits.

Complete results of the evaluation study will be published in a future issue of *Latitudes*.

BioSites will continue as a shared endeavor and at this time participation is being opened to other interested health sciences libraries in the region to serve as subject selectors. Each selector is responsible for the initial identification of resources on the Internet in their respective topic, submission of descriptive information on suitable sites to BioSites, and monitoring the Internet for new resources. If you are interested in becoming a subject selector see the description regarding "Responsibilities of Subject Selectors" available at BioSites (<http://www.library.ucsf/biosites/help/resp.htm/>) and contact Judy Consales (consales@library.ucla.edu) for more information. ☼

(RAC Meeting, continued from page 2)

were made to increase the focus on California State University nursing programs, and to work more closely with nurse educators in the clinical setting.

THE CALIFORNIA DIGITAL LIBRARY (CDL): An update was provided on the CDL by PSRML Director Alison Bunting who serves on an advisory committee for CDL. (See accompanying article on CDL FAQs). The University of California (UC) is very interested in making the CDL an information resource for the entire state. The first collection being built is the Science, Technology and Industry Collection (STIC). The goal is to allow users to search databases, then be able to immediately access the full-content of those journals for which UC has a license agreement. The University does not anticipate mounting the full-text itself; rather it will sign agreements which will allow users to go to the publishers' servers for access. There are many issues to

contend with, including the need to provide ILL service, since most licenses for electronic journals presently preclude ILL. This is especially important for UCLA as the Regional Medical Library. The RML will work with the CDL to explore options for providing services to regional libraries.

PSRML INITIATIVES TO INCREASE REGIONAL LIBRARIANS' TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND USAGE: In Year 03 of the RML contract (which begins May 1, 1998) a number of suggestions were proposed by PSRML to help librarians more fully utilize information technologies. RAC members were asked for feedback and ideas on these proposals including:

1. Scholarships for hospital librarians to support attendance at classes, professional meetings, and other continuing education opportunities
2. Co-sponsorship of meetings

on technology topics at Joint meetings of the MLA chapters.

3. Funding individuals in the region who have special knowledge/skills to develop classes for Network member librarians.
4. Consolidate various electronic listings of continuing education opportunities, and make it available throughout the region.

A number of suggestions were put forth which will help PSRML develop these proposals into initiatives for Year 3 of the contract. Further details on these initiatives will be made available to NN/LM members soon.

PSRML is grateful to the individuals who serve on the RAC, for their time, their expertise, and their continuing efforts to provide advice and assistance. Service on the RAC is normally for two-years; new members will be appointed after May 1, 1998. ☼

Internet Observations

by Judy Consales

*Our life is frittered away by detail
...simplify, simplify
Henry David Thoreau*

Thoreau and the Internet seem an unlikely pairing but this connection came to me as I was thinking about how to describe the re-design of the PSRML home page (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/psr/>). I'm fairly certain that Henry David Thoreau would not have approved of the technologies of the information age, but we've recently taken steps to simplify locating information on the NN/LM Pacific Southwest Region Web site. The new PSRML home page offers a clear outline of current PSRML programs: Resource Sharing, Outreach Services, and Internet Services with key links from those to essential sources such as PubMed, Internet GRATEFUL MED, and BioSites. Publications including *Latitudes* and the *Directory of Health Sciences Libraries: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and the Pacific Basin* are readily accessible from the main page. A search button has been added for locating data on the PSRML site and the main NN/LM Web (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>). In the future, expect to see more presentations including Internet classes and meeting presentations, e.g. the 1998 Joint Meeting Consumer Health Panel. Also available are news and announcements, a listing of staff and services, a directory of resource libraries, and information about the PSRML Listserv. Please visit the site, see what's new, and let us know what you think.

Going along with the back-to-basics approach, following is a short review of how to locate Internet resources. Health sciences librarians with limited onsite collections and resources and Internet access can locate a source for information on a whole range of topics by following the tips outlined below.

- Do you need the address of a Canadian publisher for an alternative medicine book titled "Braving the Void"?
- Is a healthcare administrator looking for information about hospitalists?
- Are you looking for consumer health material relating to prostate cancer and Vitamin E?

All of these were recent requests from health sciences librarians in the Pacific Southwest Region, and the answers were located via the Internet. The original messages describing these information questions were posted to the MEDLIB-L listserv, an invaluable resource when you're working in a one-person library.

There's an ever-growing abundance of data on the Internet. Once you've exhausted the standard meta-sources and databases, including MEDLINE, and not found an answer, the next logical step is an Internet search. I've lost count of the search engines, Web guides, and specialized search services now available. My advice is to become familiar with the features of Web searching to efficiently find the

information you need. For example, enclose a phrase in quotes (e.g., searching "braving the void," was the trick to locating the book published by a Canadian publisher). Use a wildcard (*) to broaden your search and retrieve variations—e.g., hospitalist*. Try your search at several of the sites. The Vitamin E and prostate cancer was not located on the first try but found at a second search service site. Finally, don't forget to read the search help assistance available at each site. Following is a list of the major search services—try them out, learn their idiosyncrasies, and make the Net work for you.

SEARCH SERVICES

Altavista
<http://altavista.digital.com/>
Excite
<http://www.excite.com/>
InfoSeek
<http://www.infoseek.com/>
Hotbot
<http://www.hotbot.com/>
Lycos
<http://www.lycos.com/>
Magellan
<http://www.mckinley.com/>
Northern Light
<http://www.northernlight.com/>
Webcrawler
<http://webcrawler.com/>
Yahoo
<http://www.yahoo.com/> ☆

Internet Risks and Liability

by Alison Bunting

A recent workshop on *Internet Risks and Liability* sponsored by the Cornell University Computer Policy and Law Program provided interesting insight into four areas of potential liability of which every institution should be aware.

Copyright: An institution will have copyright considerations in several arenas. The first is insuring that the use of text, images, or sound in institutional Web pages does not violate the intellectual property rights of others. It is very tempting to enhance Web sites with images found via the Internet, or scanned in from print publications. But use of copyrighted material without permission could result in a copyright infringement lawsuit. Clear policies are also needed on who will own the rights to intellectual property created for and posted on an institution's Web page. Does the author, such as an independent contractor hired to create a Web page, own the rights, or is it a "work made for hire", in which the institution owns copyright? Institutions may also want to protect their intellectual property by registering materials with the U.S. Copyright Office and placing copyright notices in prominent locations on Web pages.

Public information and privacy: It is important to be aware of existing local, state, and federal legislation

concerning public information and privacy, and incorporate essential provisions into institutional policies for Web page creation or e-mail protocol. Can employees object to having their names and photos included on the institutional Web page? Is all e-mail communication private? Applicable federal laws include the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986, the Freedom of Information Act, and the Privacy Act of 1974.

Defamation and harassment: E-mail or Web pages make it possible to reach a very large and wide audience instantly and easily. An amusing joke to one audience can be highly insulting to another. Institutions need to be cognizant of their potential liability if an employee uses the institutional e-mail system to defame or harass an individual, a business, or other organization. Clear guidelines and policies should delineate how and who should respond to complaints of defamation or harassment by those employed by an organization, and those outside the institution.

Pornography, obscenity, and indecency: Use of e-mail to distribute indecent or obscene material is very likely to generate complaints and calls for action. Determining what is obscene can be problematic, since it involves applying contemporary community standards, and

consideration of an individual's First Amendment rights to free speech. For example, in the health care arena images which might logically be included in a consumer health education program on safe sex could be considered pornographic by some members of the community.

The workshop stressed that institutions should not let concerns about these potential areas of liability discourage them from taking full advantage of the power and benefits of the Internet. Rather, institutions should bring together key staff to develop institutional policies and procedures which incorporate applicable legal requirements, and clearly document responsibilities for handling complaints and taking corrective action. Key staff include technologists, system administrators, librarians, attorneys, human resources, and public relations staff. Policy documents should cover areas such as responsible use of Internet resources by employees; privacy and monitoring of use; record retention, backup, and archiving; and system, service, and data access. By developing policies before problems arise an institution can avoid common mistakes when problems are encountered. Additional information on the Cornell Computer Policy and Law Program, including sample policies, can be found at <http://www.cornell.edu/CPL/>. ★

Frequently Asked Questions: California Digital Library

The information below is taken from the University of California Library Planning & Action Initiative Web site.

1. What is the California Digital Library?

The California Digital Library (CDL) is a tenth library for the University of California. A collaborative effort of the nine campuses, it is responsible for the design, creation, and implementation of systems that support the shared collections of the virtual library of California.

2. How is it funded?

In 1997-98 the President allocated new funds from discretionary sources for the CDL. In 1998-99, new State funds are being requested to build the CDL.

3. Why do we need a 10th Library?

University libraries are in a time of transition. They are being asked to blend new digital formats with existing print collections. The CDL will assist in this transition by:

- *Licensing and acquiring shared electronic content*

The CDL will negotiate contracts for access to published electronic content (books, journals, images) for UC faculty, staff and students. The combined buying power of the nine campuses should allow us to obtain more favorable contracts, while centralizing negotiation and licensing will reduce overhead costs for local campus libraries. The CDL will also organize projects to digitize and distribute UC produced content, such as technical

reports, databases, and museum collections and make this content available systemwide.

- *Developing systems and technology to enhance shared collections*

The increasing cost of information is forcing all libraries, including those in the University of California, to rely more heavily on resource sharing. The CDL will implement technology to facilitate the request and transmission of print materials from one campus to another, as well as systems to allow faculty and students to easily access information in the University's shared digital collections.

- *Transforming the process of scholarly communication*

The development of dissemination functions in digital libraries has the potential to more effectively manage the cost-driven journal crisis that is perceived to be strangling scientific communication. At present the University of California and other institutions of higher education subsidize and pay the costs of research, then give this intellectual property away to others, only to have to buy it back at ever increasing prices. The CDL will serve as a focal point for University efforts to break this circle. For example, by becoming its own publisher and disseminating and archiving materials electronically, the CDL can

provide an alternative publication mechanism.

4. What is the Science, Technology and Industry Collection?

The *Science, Technology and Industry Collection* will be developed as the first shared digital collection of the **CDL**. Science and technology account for over 80% of the digital literature now available. At the same time, the core of the current library-funding crisis is directly related to continuous high inflation in scientific and technical publishing; close to 50% of UC Libraries' materials budgets go to scientific journals and since 1993 alone the cost of these journals has risen over 40%. Thus choosing a collection focused on science and technology will permit the University to begin to address the current funding crisis by achieving economies of scale for accessing the highest cost literature, thus reducing the *rate* at which costs increase.

Initially, the *Science, Technology and Industry Collection* will provide broad coverage of a critical mass of publisher-produced digital information in the Health, Life, and Physical Sciences as well as Engineering. In later phases, it will also include less traditional but equally important digital information resources, such as University-produced technical reports, patents, preprints and data sets, with one potential focus on areas which the University has designated as high priority for industry initiatives: biotechnology, microelectronics,

(Continued on page 8)

(CDL, Continued from page 7)

and computer science. The CDL plans to have 1,000 science and technology journals available to UC faculty, staff and students via their campus computers by next July.

5. What about the Humanities and Social Sciences? Will they be part of the CDL?

The next CDL collection will be in either the Humanities or the Social Sciences. The CDL Operations and Planning Advisory Group, consisting of senior professional staff from each campus library, has been charged to recommend the next collection for CDL development by March of 1998, using the CDL Collection Framework (<http://www.lpai.ucop.edu/outcomes/cdl/>). The recommendation of this group will then be forwarded to the Systemwide Scholarly Information and Advisory Committee; this committee is currently being established to advise the Senior Provost on the CDL and on systemwide library planning activities.

Meanwhile, the CDL has already taken steps to establish collections outside of the sciences. The Encoded Archival Description Project (EAD) is a two-year pilot project to develop a UC-wide prototype union database of 30,000 pages of archival finding aid data encoded using the Encoded Archival Description (EAD) SGML document type definition. This database will serve as the foundation for the development of a full-scale digital archive for the University of California System (UC) available via the Internet to diverse user

communities. (<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/FindingAids/uc-ead/index.html>). In addition, the CDL has submitted a proposal to participate as a testbed site for the AMICO project, which will license museum digital collections to the higher educational community.

6. How can I recommend materials or projects to the CDL?

Librarians on each campus are working with faculty to establish the collections and services of the CDL. You can contact any reference librarian or bibliographer with your concerns. In addition, you can contact appropriate members of the Library Planning & Action Initiative's Advisory Task Force whose members are listed at <http://www.lpai.ucop.edu/atf/members.html>. At least one member of each campus serves on this committee, some of whom are faculty representatives appointed by Academic Council. By July, the CDL should have a web site available with an email address for correspondence.

7. Where can I get more information about the CDL?

Further information on plans for the California Digital Library may be found at the Library Planning and Action Initiative Web site:

<http://www.lpai.ucop.edu/>

A recent issue of **Notice**, from the UC Academic Senate, also provides an overview of the CDL:

<http://www.ucop.edu/senate/notice/nov7notc.pdf> ☆

Hospital and Health Administration Index

Taken from the NLM Technical Bulletin, Jan-Feb 1998

The American Hospital Association (AHA) Resource Center announces the availability of the casebound cumulative 1997 issue (volume 53) and the forthcoming first 1998 issue (volume 54) of *Hospital and Health Administration Index* (formerly *Hospital Literature Index*). In 1998 the Index continues to be produced from NLM's HealthSTAR database, formed by merging the HEALTH and HSTAR databases. The Index is the primary printed guide to journal literature on health policy and reform issues, integrated health care, managed care plans, community accountability, health care accessibility, and over 1,400 other administrative and planning topics. The Index cites English-language articles, with emphasis on the United States and developed countries. It is published in three issues, with the third issue an annual cumulation.

Ordering information and prices follow.

Hospital and Health Administration Index 1998 (Subscription)
Item Number: RCL-M0940
Price: \$350 (AHA member)
\$460 (nonmember)

Hospital and Health Administration Index 1997 (Casebound annual cumulation)
Item Number: 121530
Price: \$320 (AHA member)
\$420 (nonmember)

Mail orders to:

AHA Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 92683
Chicago, IL 60675-2683

Order by telephone toll free:
800-AHA-2626 or
FAX: 312-422-4505.

Further information and order forms are also available from the AHA Resource Center at <http://www.aha.org/resource/hhi.html> ☆

ACCESSING USEFUL INFORMATION: CHALLENGES IN HEALTH POLICY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

by Beryl Glitz

This was the title for a meeting, held in March at the New York Academy of Medicine, to identify and address the problems that professionals in the areas of public health and health policy face in retrieving useful information and assessing its quality. Each of the eight Regional Medical Libraries were represented at the meeting, to help them better understand the challenges of serving this group of potential users of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM).

Speakers included representatives from the Public Health Foundation, the National Library of Medicine and its National Information Center on Health Services Research, the New York Academy of Medicine, IBM, the Coalition for Networked Information, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the NN/LM.

This program was part of the evolving initiative

between NLM and various groups within the public health arena, to promote use of information resources by professionals, students and practitioners in the fields of health policy and public health.

Proceedings of the meeting will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine* and is available on the Web site of NLM (www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/nyam/nyam.html).

As part of our effort to work more closely with Network libraries in this area, PSRML has been attempting to identify all libraries in the Pacific Southwest Region that provide services to individuals in the field of public health. If you serve public health personnel, either your own primary users or individuals outside of your immediate institution, and have not yet contacted our office, please call or send a message to bglitz@library.ucla.edu. ☛

PSRML LISTSERV INVITATION

PSRML would like to invite other individuals within Network member institutions to be added to our listserv. We will add any staff member's individual e-mail address upon request. If you are interested in being included, please email, fax, or phone in your address, to Michael Miller (mmiller@library.ucla.edu), along with your name and your institution. If your library is not a Network member, we would be pleased to send you membership information.

PSRML Outreach Subcontracts: Coming Soon

Do you know of health facilities in your area that lack library services? If PSRML gave you \$3,500, would you provide them with consultation and training to improve their access to biomedical information?

PSRML will again be offering up to five subcontracts to Primary Access Libraries who are NN/LM members, for outreach services to unaffiliated institutions. These may be clinics, small hospitals, public health agencies, or community health organizations. Details will be broadcast over the RML list and in the next issue of *Latitudes*.

Setting the Standard - Once Again in Region 7!

by Heidi Sandstrom

Caroline Elman of SmithKline Beecham Clinical Laboratories, Inc. (SBCL) Library in Van Nuys, California, recently won the Gold Standard Search featured in the *NLM Technical Bulletin*. She usually reads this feature in the *Bulletin*, impressed that this benchmark exists for searching NLM databases. She has submitted entries in the past, and was truly surprised at her first win this time. This exercise has helped to motivate her to learn and use the PubMed search engine. Her winning strategy was in response to a search request published in the September-October 1997 issue:

Your user asks you for information on “Jewish genetic diseases.”

Caroline said this is a fairly routine search topic for her. SBCL maintains an active research and development program in the area of testing for genetic disorders; its Genetic Testing Center is located in Van Nuys. Caroline searched the MEDLINE file using the PubMed search engine for this broadly defined search request. She used Boolean search features and combined text word with MeSH term searching in order to include the most recent citations from the PREMEDLINE file (PubMed allows you to search PREMEDLINE, MEDLINE and all the MEDLINE Backfiles in a single search). Caroline likes being able to search the combined files in a single database. She especially likes the “friendliness” of the Web interface as she works cooperatively with her patrons in searching a topic. And she states, “It’s free, so you can’t lose to try it!”

This lengthy article in the *Bulletin* highlights some of the key features of the PubMed search engine as it reviews the strategy used for this search, so check it out at the following URL:

[Http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/jf98/jf98_gold.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/jf98/jf98_gold.html)

Congratulations, Caroline, on taking home the gold and an NLM t-shirt! ☆

SERHOLD Updating Deadline Ahead!

May 31, 1998

EVERY library with holdings records in the National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) **SER**ials **HOLD**ings data base, SERHOLD, must make sure that its serials holdings records are accurate and up-to-date. DOCLINE routing is entirely dependent on the quality of each library’s serials holdings records in SERHOLD.

Don’t spoil your Memorial Day Weekend by leaving your updating to the last minute! If you have not received a packet with updating information and instructions, contact Heidi Sandstrom at PSRML at 1 (800) 338-7657 or by email at heidits@library.ucla.edu. Please help yourself and your library colleagues to provide the optimal sharing of resources within our Region!

Network Membership Directory Coming Soon!

Mailings to network libraries were sent out in April to gather updated information which will be used in the 9th edition of the *Directory of Health Sciences Libraries: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Pacific Basin*. Be sure to return your entry and ordering information to us by **Friday, May 20, 1998**, if you would like your library to be included in the *Directory*! Let us know if you have not received this mailing. The *Directory* will be distributed this summer. Better than the yellow pages! ☆

LSIOU Order Information

Taken from the NLM Technical Bulletin, Jan-Feb 1998

The ordering and pricing information for the *List of Serials Indexed for Online Users (LSIOU)* is available; the *LSIOU* may be obtained, free of charge, from the NLM Web site at the following address:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/serials/lsiou.html>

This publication may also be ordered from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). Questions concerning orders may be directed to NTIS at 800-423-9255. Callers from outside the U.S. or Canada may reach NTIS at 703-487-4650. Questions about standing orders should be directed to the NTIS subscription Section at 703-487-4630.

Orders may be placed in the following ways:

Phone: 800-423-9255 or 703-487-4650

TDD: 703-4887-4639

Fax: 703-321-8547

Web site: <http://www.ntis.gov/ordernow>

E-mail: orders@ntis.fedworld.gov

If you are concerned about Internet security, you may register your credit card at NTIS by calling 703-487-4682. If you need a paper form to place your order, you may download a pdf file from <http://www.ntis.gov/ordering.htm> or you may call NTIS at 800-423-9255 to have a form mailed to you.

List of Serials Indexed for Online Users, 1998

Single Demand Order Number: PB98-965201

NTIS Standing Order Number: PB98-965200

Price for Single or Standing Order:

- \$27.95 (U.S./Canada/Mexico)
- \$55.90 (other countries) ★

PubMed 2.0 Up on the Web

Taken from the NLM Technical Bulletin, Jan-Feb 1998

On Monday, January 26, 1998, PubMed 2.0 became available on the Web. Some of the new and advanced features in this version of PubMed include:

- Loansome Doc Ordering System
- MeSH Browser
- Details of Search Display
- Citation Matcher
- MeSH Searching Enhancements

For more information about these and the other new or improved PubMed features you may go to:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/news.html>

Please send your PubMed questions and comments to the NLM Help Desk (pubmed@nlm.nih.gov). ★

1998 Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) Knowledge Sources Available

NLM is pleased to announce that the 1998 editions of the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) Knowledge Sources and lexical programs are now available to UMLS licensees on the UMLS Knowledge Source Server. There have been substantial additions to the content of the Metathesaurus and the SPECIALIST Lexicon, and new features have been added to the Knowledge Source Server. The UMLS CD-ROMS will be mailed to UMLS users in March.

For more information about the Unified Medical Language System and the UMLS products, visit <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/umls.html>.

**The Following Information is Reprinted from the NLM Technical Bulletin,
January/February 1998 Table of Contents**

(The articles that are bolded were reprinted in this issue of *Latitudes*)

In This Issue:

Technical Notes

- Corrections to the November-December 1997 *NLM Technical Bulletin* article titled *NLM Classification, 5th Edition, Additions and Changes, List 2*
- Correction Policy for the *NLM Technical Bulletin on the Web*
- Further Discussion About the *Transitioning from ELHILL to PubMed* Article
- **PubMed 2.0 Up on the Web**
- **LSIOU Order Information**
- ***Hospital and Health Administration Index***
- Additional Transition Classes added to Online Training Schedule
- 1998 MLA Meeting Reminder and NLM Invitation

AVLINE® Update

Gold Standard Search

In Every Issue:

NLM Publications

Internet Directory

Upcoming Events

May 1998

12 Satellite Video Conference
"The Digital Library: An
Oxymoron? A Colloquium to
Honor Medical Librarians"
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (E.T.)
Call PSRML for information on
video conferencing sites.

May 1998

22-27 *MLA '98*
Philadelphia Marriott
Philadelphia, PA

31 SERHOLD Updating Deadline

University of California, Los Angeles
PSRML/Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library
12-077 Center for the Health Sciences
Box 951798
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1798
BK35

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
UCLA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

ATTN: LIBRARY

Please route to staff